

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, preventing workplace injury and illness should always be a priority in Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, teens at work are twice as likely to be injured as adults; and

**WHEREAS**, many Washington teens will start jobs this summer unaware of labor laws designed to protect them from potential on-the-job hazards; and

**WHEREAS**, young workers need special attention and protections in the workplace and will be safer if employers follow the rules for employing teens, make a special effort to address any health and safety hazards that may exist, and treat young workers with the same care they want for their own children; and

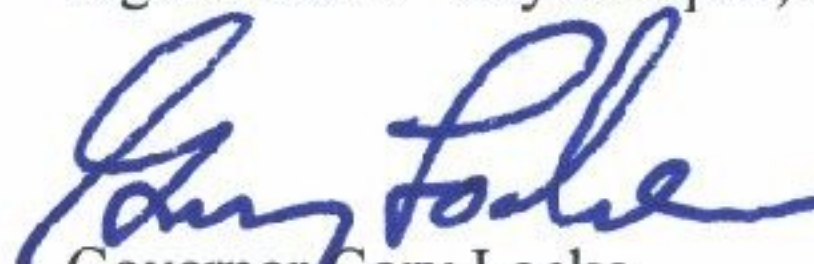
**WHEREAS**, greater awareness and education will create safer work experiences for youth, and the Department of Labor and Industries will reach out to teens, parents, employers, and the general public in a teen safety education campaign in May;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Gary Locke, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2004 as

### *Safe Jobs for Youth Month*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2004

  
Governor Gary Locke

